

VETERANS UPDATE

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TELEHEALTH ACROSS STATE LINES



The Department of Veterans Affairs announced a new rule May 11 allowing VA health-care providers to administer care to Veterans using telehealth when care will occur across state lines or

outside a VA facility.

“This new rule is critical to VA’s ‘Anywhere to Anywhere’ initiative,” said VA Acting Secretary Robert Wilkie.

Enabling Veterans to receive care

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 22, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Last Roll Call Ceremony of Remembrance, 3rd floor chapel

May 24, 12 – 1 p.m., Recruiting & Informational Event with SNAPCHEF, T-35, Coast Guard Way, PVAMC campus

June 9-10, Providence VAMC Outreach Event, Rhode Island Air Show

June 14, 4:30 - 6 p.m., Martha’s Vineyard Veteran Town Hall, American Legion, 47 Martin Road, Tisbury, Mass.

at home, the rule will especially benefit Veterans living in rural areas or who must travel long distances to receive care.

To learn more visit <https://connectedcare.va.gov/>.

TELEPHONE SCAM TARGETING VETERANS

VA is investigating a telephone scam involving an individual, or individuals, impersonating VA Office of General Counsel attorneys. The perpetrators reportedly call Veterans and request money to process their claims for benefits.

It is important to know that VA — as a cabinet-level agency of the U.S. government, funded by Congress — will never request payment for carrying out our mission to serve Veterans.

To learn more, visit:

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/48063/veterans-benefits-scam-alert-beware-of-scammers-impersonating-va-attorneys/>.



CELEBRATING WOMEN VETERANS



Lindsay Amherst, Marine Corps Veteran and veterans service representative from the Providence VA Regional Benefits Office, gives remarks Thursday, March 29, 2018, during an event recognizing Women's History Month and honoring women Veterans at the new Rhode Island Veterans Home in Bristol, R.I. (Photo courtesy of the Rhode Island Office of Veterans Affairs)

The Providence VA Medical Center and the Rhode Island Office of Veterans Affairs joined together March 29 at the new Rhode Island Veterans Home in Bristol, R.I., to honor women who have served our nation.

"Women's History Month was the perfect time to recognize the sacrifices women Veterans make while serving their country, and to provide information about the benefits and services they have earned," said Tonya Maselli McConnell, Providence VAMC Women Veteran Program manager.

During the event, a panel of women Veterans participated in a discussion about their experiences while serving in uniform and after they transitioned from military service.

Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea provided the keynote address, which was preceded by remarks from Kasim Yarn, Rhode Island's director of Veterans Affairs; Dr. Susan Mackenzie, director of the Providence VA Medical Center; and

Maj. Gen. Christopher Callahan, the adjutant general of the Rhode Island National Guard.

"We are so thankful for our women warriors," said Yarn. "Hosting this program with the Providence VA Medical Center was an honor. The stories we heard reflect the courage, sacrifice and patriotism of these heroes."

Several organizations dedicated to providing services for Veterans also attended the event, providing information and resource materials, and answering questions about the services available to women Veterans.

According to data from the Department of Veterans Affairs, more than 5,000 women Veterans live in Rhode Island. The Providence VAMC serves approximately 2,000 women Veterans at the medical center in Providence, and at affiliated outpatient clinics in Middletown, R.I., and Hyannis and New Bedford, Mass.

Women's health services are available at all facilities, and there is a dedicated Women Veterans Clinic at the Providence VAMC.



Providence VA Medical Center

830 Chalkstone Ave
Providence, RI 02908
401-273-7100

Veteran's Crisis Line:
800-273-8255 press 1

Patient Call Center (PCC):
401-457-3336

Pharmacy Call Center:
866-400-1241

**Community Care /
Veteran's Choice Office**
401-273-7100 ext. 3015

Account Balances:
401-457-3344

Providence VBA Regional Office
401-273-7100 ext. 3107

Website:
www.providence.va.gov

Facebook:
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